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Written statement* submitted by Maarij Foundation for Peace and Development, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[17 February 2014]

* This written statement is issued, unedited, in the language(s) received from the submitting non-governmental organization(s).

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Stop ethnic cleansing in the Central African Republic*

The Maarij Foundation for Peace and Development (MFPD) is following with deep concern the operations of ethnic cleansing against Muslims in Central Africa, which take the form of religious intolerance of Christian extremist armed groups, many observers refers that the French military intervention, in Central Africa has contributed in fueling conflict and the creation of opportunities for militant Christians for more of killings and atrocities against Muslims in Central Africa.

Conflict systems generally correlate to pre-colonial social networks and post-colonial economic systems. In the CAR, although geographically, the current war is occurring in a separate independent political entity, it is also part of a broader system of violence that links to ongoing or apparently resolved conflicts in the region. Historical exploitation through the slave trade, similar patterns of colonization and neo-colonial economic pressures that unite the Sahelian mining belt.

Since December 2012, the CAR has been experiencing political and social instability as well as insecurity, which has exacerbated the already precarious humanitarian situation in the country. Following the seizure of power by force in March 2013, the country has seen the disruption of normal life, human rights violations, and the massive displacement of populations.

Over 400,000 people are estimated to be internally displaced, compared to some 94,000 in early 2012. Some 65,000 individuals have fled to the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), the Republic of the Congo, Chad and Cameroon, bringing the global number of Central African refugees close to 220,000.

According to reports the United Nations and international organizations to the ethnic cleansing against Muslims in Central Africa increasingly brutal day after day, Amnesty International reports:

"Ethnic cleansing" of Muslims has been carried out in the western part of the Central African Republic, the most populous part of the country, since early January 2014. 1 Entire Muslim communities have been forced to flee, and hundreds of Muslim civilians who have not managed to escape have been killed by the loosely organized militias known as anti-balaka.

"They killed my children heartlessly," said Oure, a Muslim woman whose four sons were killed by anti-balaka fighters on 26 January. She, her two sisters, their 75-year-old mother, and seven of the family's children had gone out early in the morning, trying to reach a church in the northwest town of Baoro, when they were caught by an anti-balaka militia unit. "The children were slaughtered in front of our eyes," Oure continued, sobbing: "both my children and my sisters' children." One of Oure's sisters, Aishatu, was wounded on her hand when she tried to protect the children, who boys were ranging in age from 8 to 17 years old.

The ethnic cleansing of Muslim communities is part of a larger tragedy unfolding in the Central African Republic. The Maarij Foundation for Peace and Development (MFPD) to scream loudest calls for all merciful humankind to save the lives of these innocent, a massacre of the innocents Muslims is taking place in the Central Africa as the world looks the other way.

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*Global Network for Rights and Development (GNRD), an NGO without (ECOSOC) consultative status, also share the views expressed in this statement.